(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No Need has been felt for further relaxing of the existing physical standards,

Indian Troops for Golan Heights under UNDO Force

1681. SHRIMATI N.P. DURGA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that group of 185 officers and troops have left Golan Heights along with other countries as a part of the United Nations Disengagement observer Force;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the Indian contingent is separately conducting peacekeeping operations; and

(d) if so, the reasons behind separately carrying out operations when the troops are sent under United Nations Disengagement Observer Force?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) and (b) The Government has issued sanction for induction of 185 personnel of Indian Army as Logistics Company in Golan Heights as part of United Nations (UN) Disengagement Observer Force. Out of this, 120 personnel have since been deployed in this Mission and the remaining personnel are scheduled to be deployed by the end of March, 2006.

(c) and (d) No, Sir. The Indian Army contingent is carrying out operations strictly under the United Nations mandate.